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BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR - 1965.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. G. Nisbet, M.B.,Ch.B.(Ed) D.P.H. (until March 31st, 1965)

Dr. J.B. Stafford, L.R.C.P. D.P.H. (from April 1st, 1965.)

Public Health Inspector: Mr. D. Ward Griffiths, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

I took up my duties as Medical Officer of Health to the Barnack Rural District Council on April 1st, 1965, on my appointment as Assistant Medical Officer of Health to the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council.

Prior to my appointment, Dr. George Nisbet, the County Medical Officer, had acted as District Medical Officer of Health since March, 1962. I should like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Dr. Nisbet for his ever ready help and advice since my appointment.

Population:

The estimated population for mid-1965, according to the Registrar-General, was 6,400, an estimated increase of 250 on the previous year.

Statistics:

The live birth rate of 12.8 per 1,000 of the population is much lower than the rate for the previous year, which was 20.0, and is also lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, which was 18.1.

The infant mortality rate of 12.1 per 1,000 live births is also lower than the rate for the country as a whole, which was 19.0.

There were no stillbirths in 1965.

The death rate of 5.4 per 1,000 population is less than half that for England and Wales, which was 11.5.

Seven deaths were due to malignant disease; eight were due to coronary disease, and eight to vascular lesions of nervous system.

Conclusion:

As will be seen from the statistics presented, the health of the District was most satisfactory in 1965.

As a new-comer to the area, I have greatly valued the help given by my colleagues, the Clerk of the Council, by members of the Committees, by Mr. J. Dunford, and the clerical staff of the County Health Department, to all of whom I express my thanks.

JOHN BRYCE STAFFORD.

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area	15.256 acres
Population (estimated mid-1965)	6,400
Number of inhabited houses from Rent Book (April, 1965)	862 (excluding R.A.F. Wittering)
Rateable value (April, 1965)	£156,734
Sum represented by a penny rate (April, 1965)	£640

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR:

	Males	Females	Total		England & Wales
LIVE BIRTHS Legitimate	48	30	78		
Illegitimate	1	3	4		
Total	49	33	82		
LIVE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION:				12.8	18.1
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS:				5.0	
STILLBIRTHS:				NIL	
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and Stillbirths				0.0	15.7

INFANT DEATHS:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

Total per 1,000 live births	12.1	19.0

DEATHS:

Males	20		
Females	15	TOTAL	35

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	5.4	11.5

Infectious diseases:

MEASLES:	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
Under 1 year	-	-	-	
1 "	1	-	1	
2 "	1	1	2	
3 "	1	1	2	
4 "	-	-	-	
5 - 9 "	-	3	3	
10 - 14 "	-	1	1	
Over 14 "	-	1	1	10

WHOOPING COUGH:				
Under 1 year	-	-	-	
1 "	1	1	2	
2 "	-	-	-	
3 "	-	-	-	
4 "	-	-	-	
5 - 9 "	1	1	2	
10 - 14 "	-	-	-	
Over 14 "	-	-	-	4

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1965	Males	Females
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	-
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	4
Coronary Disease, Angina	4	4
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	-
Other Heart Disease	2	2
Other Circulatory Disease	-	1
Pneumonia	2	1
Bronchitis	1	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	1	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
TOTAL - ALL CAUSES	20	15

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (continued)

Pneumonia	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
Under 1 year	1	-	1	
1 "	-	-	-	
2 years	1	-	1	
3 "	-	-	-	
4 "	-	-	-	
5 - 9 "	-	-	-	
10 - 14 "	-	-	-	
Over 14 "	1	1	2	4

SCARLET FEVER				
Under 1 year	-	-	-	
1 "	-	-	-	
2 years	1	-	1	
3 years	-	-	-	
4 years	-	-	-	
5 - 9 "	-	1	1	
10 - 14 "	1	-	1	3

TUBERCULOSIS

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 1 year	-	-	-
1 "	-	-	-
2 years	-	-	-
3 "	-	-	-
4 "	1	-	1
5 - 9 "	-	-	-
10 - 14 "	-	-	-
Over 14	-	1	1
			2

FACTORY ACT 1937. PART I OF THE ACT.

	Number on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	9	-	-
(111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	16	19		
TOTAL	23	29	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".

	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	1			
Overcrowding				
Temperature				
Inadequate Ventilation				
Ineffective drainage of floors				
Sanitary Conveniences: (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective (c) Not separate for sexes.	1			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).				
	2	-	-	-

NIL

PART VIII OF THE ACT - Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)....NIL

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA:

Nursing in the home:

Under the County Council Scheme the services of a district nurse are available in all the villages in the District.

Home Helps:

Domestic Home Helps are available under the County Council Scheme. Applications should be made to :-

The Home Help Organiser
County Health Office
Town Hall, Peterborough.

General Hospitals:

Acute cases and Maternity admissions are made either to the Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, or the Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, Maternity cases to the Maternity Units under the charge of these hospitals.

Chronic and long-term cases are admitted to St. George's Hospital, Stamford, and St. John's Hospital, Peterborough.

Infectious Diseases:

Infectious cases are admitted to Peterborough Isolation Hospital, under the Peterborough Hospital Management Committee.

Treatment Centres and Clinics:

(a) Provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council:

Child Welfare Clinics

(i)	Village Hall, Barnack.	Third Thursday afternoon of each month.
(ii)	Wittering	First Wednesday afternoon in each month.
(iii)	Reading Room Bainton	Suspended at present.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Provided under the General Practitioner Services of the National Health Acts.

(b) Provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis cases are seen at the Chest Clinic, Stamford, Hospital, provided by the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Management Committee, or at the Chest Clinic, 1, Thorpe Road, Peterborough.

Venereal Diseases

Clinics:

The Memorial Hospital Peterborough.	Males	Mondays and Wednesdays 5.30 - 7 p.m.
	Females	Tuesdays 10.30 a.m. - 12. 5.30 - 7 p.m.

P.T.O.

BARNACK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my 15th Annual Report, this for the year 1965.

STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Water Supplies	21
Refuse Collection and Disposal	40
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	222
Factories and Workshops	29
Housing (other than Council Houses)	92
Council House Maintenance	371
Building	375
Infectious Diseases	3
Food Preparation (including School Kitchens)	23
Miscellaneous	171
	1347

BUILDING BYELAWS.

93 plans (86 previous year) were deposited and approved under the Council's Building Byelaws for the following:-

Conversions, adaptations and improvements	23
New Private Dwellings	92
Sanitary Conveniences, Drainage, etc.	2
Private Garages	8
Sporting Facilities	1
Agricultural Buildings	3
Factory Alterations	8
Other Commercial	2
Works by Public Undertakings	2
New Shops	5
Outline Planning Applications only	11

4 Plans were refused during the year for various contraventions of Building Byelaws, one of these refusals being the subject of subsequent litigation.

On the 1st April a new system was instituted relating to planning control in as much as all planning applications were first to be considered by this Council, any observations and recommendations being forwarded to the County Planning Officer. This increased the work of this Department.

During the latter part of the year further details were available of the new Building Regulations 1965 which were to operate from 1st February, 1966. My Assistant and I attended a Study Course at the end of the year dealing with the various implications of these Regulations, the implementation of which will again cause additional work in the Department.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.

In previous annual reports I have mentioned that one owner had still not carried out the essential work required by the Council on the advice of the County Fire Authority, under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1961, and confirmed on appeal by the County Court Judge.
At the beginning of the year the owner submitted amended proposals to the Council which, if they were carried out, would go some way in complying with the provisions of the Act.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

3 Applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants were approved for 3 dwellings to the value of £1172.0.0.

4 Applications for Standard Grants were approved to the value of £495.0.0.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Factories registered during the year remain at 23, the majority being one-man businesses and building operations in respect of which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Council. Periodic inspections were made and once again there is nothing special to report.

SHOPS ACTS.

The number of shops registered was 15. The standard of hygiene was again found to be generally satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS AND REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

There was no change in the number of registrations (11) during the year. All ice cream retailed in the district was sold in pre-packed containers. There is nothing special to report under this heading.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND KNACKERS YARDS.

No such premises in the district.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

No such premises in the District.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

There is one registered in the district, and this establishment complies with the provisions of the Act.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were the usual notifications of measles and whooping cough. 3 cases of scarlet fever were notified which were of a mild nature and no terminal disinfection was carried out.

The two notifications for Tuberculosis related to a son, aged 4, of a serviceman, and the wife of a serving airman at the R.A.F. Wittering, who were both removed to hospital, subsequent disinfection of premises being carried out by the R.A.F. Authority.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Further inspections were made under this Act, and a few minor infringements were rectified through informal action.

e) Southorpe

This is the only parish where a proper sewerage scheme is not envisaged as it is a small struggling hamlet where the installation of main drainage would be comparatively costly. It is not favoured by the County Planning Authority for any development except selective infilling.

Towards the end of the year the Council asked their Consulting Engineers to give a report on the possibilities of a sewerage scheme for this area.

f) Samples.

9 samples of sewage effluents were taken as follows with results as shown:-

	Total.	Entirely Satisfactory	Partially Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory.
Wittering	4	3	-	1
Wansford	5	3	2	-

The unsatisfactory sampleswere partly due to a shortage of labour at certain times of the year, and partly to the difficulty in having the settling and humus tanks emptied by a local contractor.

g) General.

The Engineering Surveyor of the Council's Insurance Company again carried out his six monthly inspections of all sewage pumping equipment within the area and his reports again stated that skilled and careful attention was being given to this equipment.

Further connections were made to the sewerage systems, and at the end of the year there were only 70 night soil buckets in the district which required collection, the greatest number being in the 3 villages which are at the moment without a proper sewerage scheme.

During the year your Technical Assistant and I were able to see various treatment plants of proprietary design in another rural area, and we both attended maintenance courses of Sewage Treatment works sponsored by the Association of the Rural District Councils Surveyors.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Once again the weekly scheme of refuse collection instigated in 1960 worked extremely well despite minor breakdowns of the vehicle and periodical shortages of labour. Hardly any complaints were received from ratepayers, who again took the regularity of this service for granted.

During the year the sale of paper salvage amounted to £13.0.0., most of which (£10.12.0) was repaid as bonus to the workmen.

Many repairs, some of a substantial nature had to be carried out to the vehicle during the year, and in addition, it was repainted at a cost of £85.0.0. Due to the ever increasing cost of repairs, and after demonstrations had been arranged, the Council agreed to order a new vehicle for delivery in the following year.

COUNCIL DEPOT.

Negotiations took place in the latter part of the year for the acquisition of land adjoining the Depot at Wittering for a new Depot Building.

WATER SAMPLES.

Numerous samples from the public supplies in the area were taken at regular intervals by the South Lincolnshire Water Board. The Bonemills supply was found to be unsatisfactory, and on investigation the drainage system of the nearby cottage was foundto be defective, and this was immediately rectified by the Board. Subsequent water samples proved to be satisfactory.

6 further samples were taken for bacteriolgical examination from two properties, a village well and a spring supply serving a new garage. The village well and the spring supply were found to be completely unsatisfactory, and notices were fixed stating that the water was unfit for drinking purposes.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

Minor repairs are carried out by Council workmen and other repairs by local building contractors.

Once again some electric coppers were provided to replace obsolete brick coppers. The work of improving 6 council houses in Wittering was completed at a cost of £1766. 12. 0. and similar work for a further number of council houses was commenced during the year.

30 passlour grates in the 1919 type of house at Barnack, Ashton and Ufford were installed at a cost of £766. 7. 6.

Unauthorised parking on grass verges and unauthorised vehicular accesses to some council houses made the construction of garages and hard standings more urgent on various council estates, and these were provided at a site in Wittering and 2 sites at Barnack.

During the year, land was acquired on which a block of 6 garages would be erected adjoining the Wittering flats, and the provision of an access road and hard standings at Wansford was investigated.

The external painting of 60 council houses together with the internal and external decoration of the Council Offices were approved during the year.

Some burst pipes occurred in council houses during the winter months, mainly because some tenants again failed to take sensible and adequate precautions.

NEW COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING

The 6 houses at Orchard Road, Barnack, and the 3 bungalows at Wansford, delayed last year by the Ministry's reluctance to allow the drainage discharge of the 3 bungalows into the existing sewage treatment plant at Whasford, were commenced in December,1964, and were completed in August (Wansford Bungalows) and December (Barnack Houses). The Barnack scheme also catered for the improvement of the existing carriageway to a standard required by the County Council.

During the year a scheme was prepared for the development of the Orchard enclosure of Orchard Road, Barnack. Subsequently it was decided that the old Hostel site at Barnack should be developed in preference to the Orchard enclosure, as the latter site was suspect due to the occasional spring out-crop.

At the end of the year the Hostel which had previously been let at a nominal rental to the Director of Excavations, Welland Valley Research Committee, was being vacated, plans and specifications having been prepared for the development of this site.

The Council's proposals for the erection of a communal unit for

elderly people at Wittering was further pursued and plans prepared and estimates obtained. This was subsequently deferred due to the possibility of a road re-alignment scheme required by the Air Ministry which would perhaps affect this site.

Land belonging to the Council (extension of Boxer Road, Wittering) was fenced off at a cost of £129. 3. 0.

It was decided not to proceed for the time being with the building of bungalows at Offord.

CARAVAN SITES.

There are no authorised caravan sites in the area. A caravan was authorised for temporary accommodation for a farm worker and another caravan was moved after informal action had been taken.

CIVIL DEFENCE SCHEME 1965.

During the year details of the Council Flat Development at Towns End Close, Wittering, and at Allington Close, Bainton, were submitted to the County Council for consideration under this scheme of which the City Architect of Norwich was appointed Assessor.

B.P. EXPLORATION CO.LTD.

As a result of trial bore holes taken in the area in the previous year which proved to be promising, this Exploration Company decided that further drilling at a greater depth would take place at Wittering.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

An undertaking was received from the owner of an unfit cottage that it would not be relet without Council's approval, the tenant being rehoused by the Council.

There are now approximately some 30 properties only in the area which require demolition or closure action.

Approximately 30 houses were repaired during the year, generally by informal action.

CIVIL DEFENCE STAFF COLLEGE.

In October I was selected to attend a Health Inspector's Course at this College, as a result of which I was able to appreciate the modern day role being played by the Civil Defence generally.

August, 1966.

D. WARD GRIFFITHS
(F.F.S., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.)

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.